



Environmental Laboratory Advisory Committee (ELAC) Final Meeting Minutes: May 10, 2007

Editorial Note: Information communicated in these minutes is not to be used as official New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection policy or as an official Department notification. Contact NJDEP officials directly for official information regarding matters communicated in these minutes.

Administrative Business

The meeting was called to order at 9:34 a.m. The minutes were approved with corrections.

Subcommittee Reports

Laboratory Certification Program: Rachel Ellis (NJDEP/OQA) reported items still needed to be added with the renewals, everything was being reviewed now. Renewals were going to start going out in about three weeks with first in, first out except for NELAP, which takes longer. They were still waiting for guidance on (Standard Methods) 21st edition.

Sharon O'Toole (MAEL) reported she has streamlined the list of questions to ask the labs concerning, talked with OQA and some of the labs and will send out the list to be checked by the other members of the Certification Streamlining Committee. Pete Boughton (NJDEP/OQA) suggested posting a white paper on the OQA's website with a bullet point checklist of what is required for certification, making it standardized. He also recommended labs have open communication with their certification officer.

PT Program: Rachel Ellis (NJDEP/OQA) reported the Solid/Hazardous Waste samples were shipped two weeks ago and close the end of the month. June 18th is the shipping date for the Water Pollution PT samples. She reported the order had already been placed and no late orders would be accepted; labs would be required to obtain the PT samples on their own. The Drinking Water *Notice of Intent to Suspend* will be going out in July. Rachel said she will miss the closing date but Michelle Potter (NJDEP/OQA) will be covering it. New L2T PT are for surface water and not Drinking Water. Any questions, contact Deb Waller (NJDEP/OQA).

TPH: Greg Toffoli (NJDEP/SRP) reported there was a meeting with the Assistant Commissioner and all staff, including case managers, will be informed of the changes concerning petroleum analysis. There will a posting Monday or Tuesday on the SRP website on the protocol. If source known to be gas, GRO by 8015; if source known to be #2 fuel oil/diesel, DRO by 8015 or QAM; if unknown source, QAM.

Greg stated June 30th is still the deadline for stopping TPH analysis by 418.1 and beginning analysis by the QAM method. He is to be informed if "undue hardship" or an insufficient number of labs certified to perform this testing. Greg added that 90% of sites are home heating or #2 fuel oil, which would allow DRO analysis by 8015. He added there is a "white paper" on the SRP website in the "What's New" section.

Dr. Michael Miller was asked if OQA can fast track certification for the QAM-025 method to which he responded no as notices went out last November about this.

Tom Cady (HC-V) inquired whether there were any studies comparing TPH analysis by IR (418.1) vs. GC (QAM-025). Dr. Michael Miller (NJDEP/OQA) reported there was a published paper three years ago and the differences depended upon the fuel and source. He added he will get the reference and send it to Sharon for distribution.

TNI: Dr. Michael Miller (NJDEP/OQA) reported they are making “some progress.” Joe Aiello (NJDEP/OQA) is now on the TNI board. There was a vote on the field standard. TNI and NELAC must now vote on implementation. The standard for accrediting authorities passed and must be sent on to (NJDEP) legal.

Greg T (Accutest) reported the PT board was moving from NELAC to TNI and that the August meeting would be in Cambridge, Mass.

NJQLs: Andy Fishman reported they are trying to work out the kinks with the program. They training is held in abeyance while working with the vendor.

Bioassay: No report.

Sludge (Biosolids): Anthony Pulaski (NJDEP/BPR) reported the nutrient documents have been sent out and they are rehashing the metals information.

Communications and (OQA) Website: Tom Cady (HC-V) reported we were the ELAC minutes were being updated

Old Business

Bureau of Safe Drinking Water: Nothing new.

PWTA: John Shevlin (NJDEP/BSDW) reported the new database started April 16th, still having some snags. The new spreadsheet is version 3.2.6, not posted yet but will be soon. The old data will be dumped into the new system; they are going through records now.

PWTA rules sunset September 2007, they are considering an extension or going forward “as is.” We will be informed at the next ELAC meeting. MCL of 5 (ppb) for perchlorate; establish a flushing point and collect at same point for lead, and arsenic testing in Warren and Sussex counties.

Site Remediation: Greg Toffoli (NJDEP/SRP) reported the clean-up criteria proposal will be available May 7th, including the link, in the “What’s New” section of the SRP website. The limits are health-based numbers and there are significant changes. He added the new criteria will not become final for about a year. The sample in vials with methanol will be eliminated and the options will be 5 g sample in a (40 ml) vial (14 day hold time) or the Encor sampler (48 hour hold time). The comment period will last until July 6th.

New Business

Lab Certification Fee Proposal: Rachel Ellis (NJDEP/OQA) reported the proposal is still in legal review.

Annual Meetings: Tom Cady (HC-V) reported they are looking at a target date of June 2008 for the annual meeting. He stated he is still getting feedback on prices which are currently around \$80 but he is aiming for \$50.

There were no other new issues. The meeting was adjourned at 10:18 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for 09:30 AM on June 14, 2007 – 5th Floor Conference Room.

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